

February 17, 1978

Have you all voted? Senator Savage voting aye.

CLERK: Senator Savage voting aye.

SENATOR SAVAGE: Record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 3 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of the bill.

SENATOR SAVAGE: LB 869 advanced. We will skip LB 797. Somebody has opposed the introduction of that so will go to LB 624 and that will be followed by a companion bill LB 625 which is not on your agenda but it will follow.

CLERK: Mr. President, (Read title to LB 624.) The bill was first read on January 4, 1978. It was referred to the Judiciary Committee. It was advanced to General File, Mr. President.

SENATOR SAVAGE: Senator Rasmussen. Senator Barnett, I'm sorry. I got used to you, Senator Rasmussen. Senator Barnett.

SENATOR BARNETT: First of all, what I'd like to do is just move that LB 624 be advanced to E & R Initial and tell you that Senator Barry Reutzel handled the probation field and during the study and during the interim, he handled the studies on the probation officers and this is one of the pieces of legislation that came out with recommendations from his study, so what I'd like to do at this time is turn it over to Senator Reutzel who studied the probation field during the interim.

SENATOR SAVAGE: The Chair recognizes Senator Reutzel.

SENATOR REUTZEL: Mr. President, members of the body, 624 is one of the two bills coming out of the LR 56 study dealing with probation. Essentially what it does is try to end the duplicity in efforts of some of our probation systems by combining the county probation officers, taking them in, the sixteen county probation officers, into the state's system. It also provides that counties could not come along at a later date, add on county probation people and then load them on to the state's system. We're talking about sixteen people. I think the fiscal note on that is around \$250,000 and I would move for the advancement of 624.

SENATOR SAVAGE: The Chair recognizes Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, in view of the number here I will not offer amendments but I will at some point offer amendments because as I understand the bill, Senator Reutzel, the state will be picking up some of the county probation people and is there a prohibition of the county acquiring, replacing them with new ones again?

SENATOR REUTZEL: The prohibition would be that after these six or seven counties which now have a county probation system, after they are taken into the state's system, additional counties could not see that advantage, take that advantage, pick it up, create their own county probation system and unload that on the state. So what we are effectively saying is that once this bill, if it is passed into law, takes effect, that additional counties which do not now presently have the county probation system, could not create that and unload it on the state.

SENATOR WARNER: How about, could the county that now have them, replace them?